

Asylum for Destitute Children

1852 – 1858

Other Names:

- Ormond House
- Juniper Hall

Details

The Society for the Relief of Destitute Children opened an asylum for children in Ormond House, a mansion in Paddington, in 1852. The Asylum held 150 children aged 3 to 10 years who were defined as needy yet had not been admitted to the Orphan Schools. The Asylum for Destitute Children relocated to Randwick in 1858.

Every child admitted (including voluntary admissions) to the Asylum for Destitute Children was to remain the responsibility of the Institution until aged 19 or, in the case of a female marrying earlier, until her marriage.

The Asylum for Destitute Children was located in a building called Juniper Hall, or Ormond House. It dates from 1824 and is the oldest grand mansion in Sydney and was built as Juniper Hall by Robert Cooper, a gin distiller. The house was renamed Ormond in 1848 to distance it from its associations with Cooper's trade. It was leased to the Society for the Relief of Destitute Children in 1852 and passed through a number of tenants before being bought by the State Children's Relief Board in the 1884, who used it until 1923, with the name Ormond House. The house was renamed Juniper Hall after World War II. In 1983 it was purchased by the National Trust and restored. It served as a museum and offices and was sold in 2012 to the Moran family, descendants of Robert Cooper.

Gallery



Juniper Hall



Ormond House, Paddington

Description: This is a picture of Ormond House in Paddington, the first location of the Asylum for Destitute Children. This image is a copy taken from John Ramsland's *Children of the back lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales*.

More info

Chronology

- **Asylum for Destitute Children (1852 – 1858)**
 - Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children (1858 - 1915)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Society for the Relief of Destitute Children \(1852 - c. 1915\)](#)

Related Places

- [Ormond House \(1824 - current\)](#)
The Asylum for Destitute Children was located in Ormond House from 1852 to 1858.
Date: 1852 - 1858

Related Legislation

- [Deserted Wives and Children Act 1840, New South Wales \(1840 - 1901\)](#)
- [Deserted Wives and Children Act of 1840 as amended by the Act of 1858, New South Wales \(1858 - 1901\)](#)

Resources

- Ramsland, John, *Children of the back lanes: destitute and neglected children in colonial New South Wales*, 1986
- Chancellor, Jonathan, [Sydney's Moran family takes the prize as National Trust offloads Juniper Hall for \\$4.5 million](#), Property Observer, 26 September 2012
- Cape Banks Family History Society Inc, [Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Deaths and Burials 1853-1916](#), No date
- Murray, John, [Children's mass grave in Sydney](#), Inside: Life in Children's Homes and Institutions blog, 1 November 2010

Records

For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

Records held by other organisations

- [Registers of Inmates, Randwick Asylum for Destitute Children \(June 1852 - August 1915\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://findconnect.efront.digital/entity/asylum-for-destitute-children/>